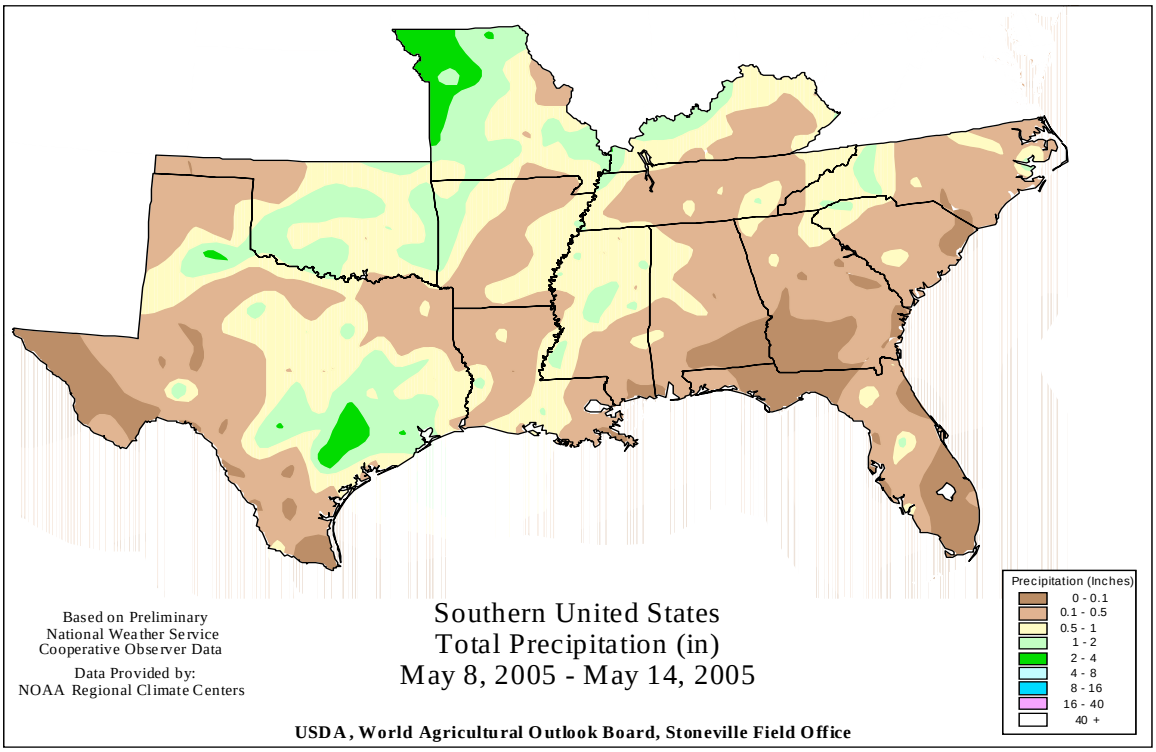
**Office of the Chief Economist**
**World Agricultural Outlook Board**
**Stoneville Field Office**

# WEEKLY AGRICULTURAL WEATHER REPORT

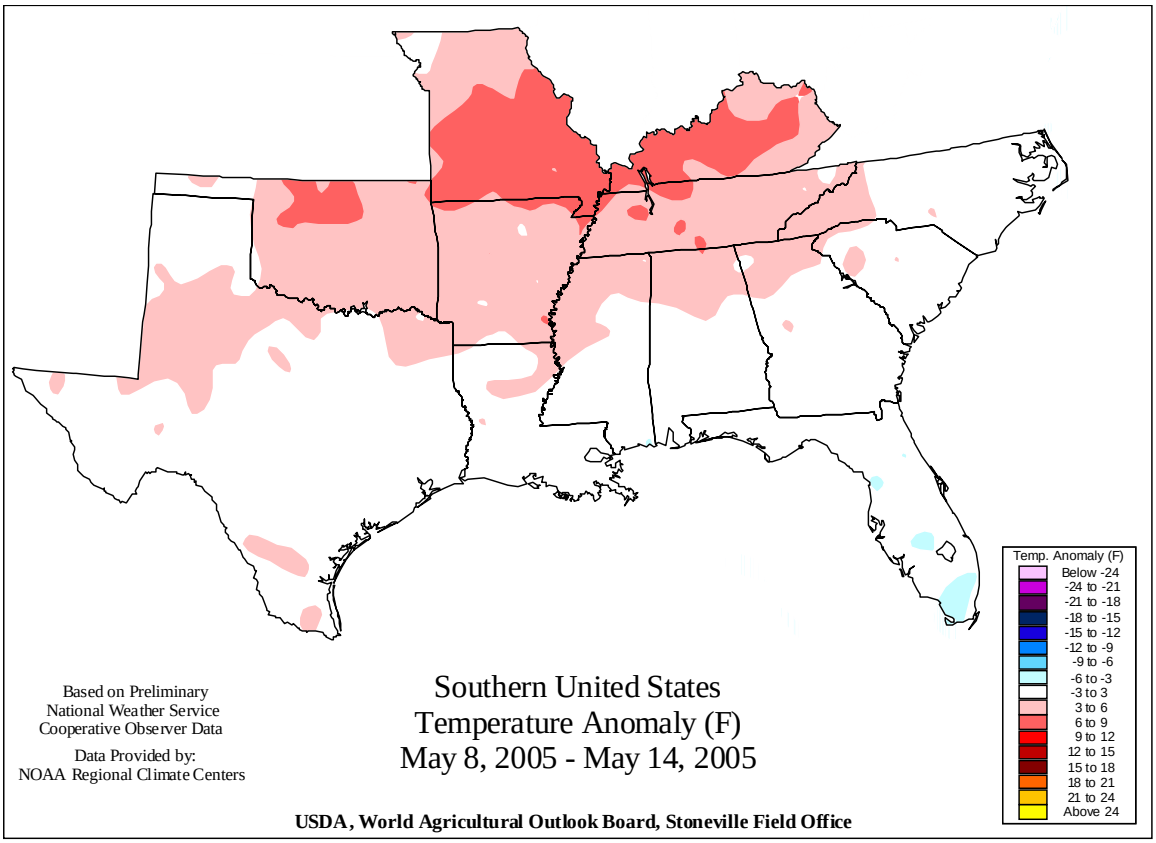
## May 8 to 14, 2005



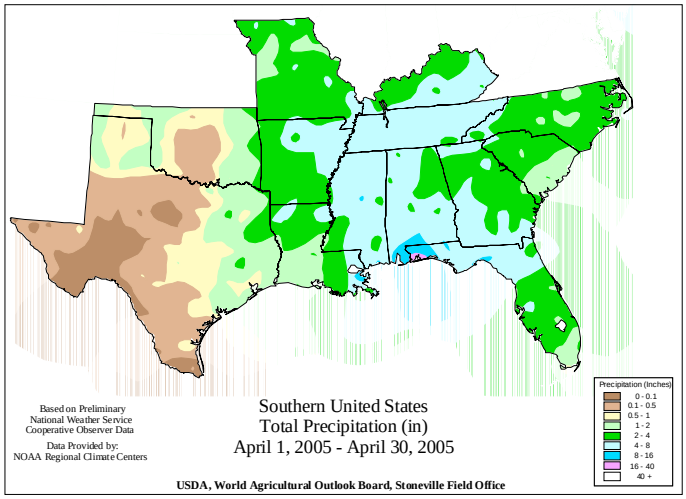

### Weather Highlights

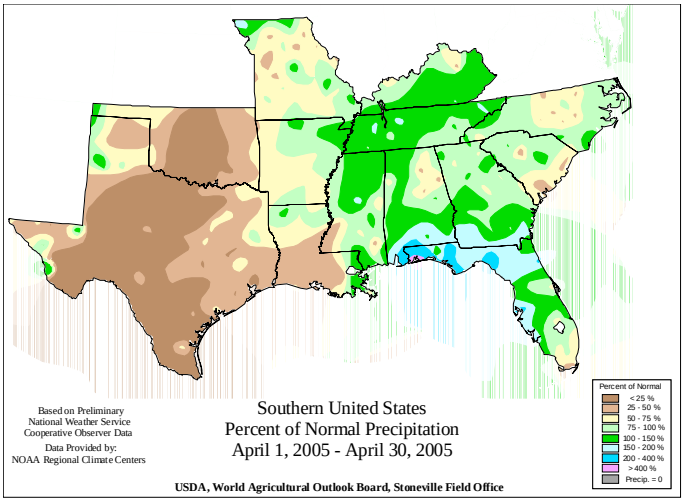
High pressure prevailed over the Southeast during most of the week, providing mostly dry weather. Elsewhere, widespread showers (1/2 to 2 inches or more) brought some relief from a drying trend from Texas northward through Oklahoma into Missouri. Other scattered areas received less than l/2 inches of rain.

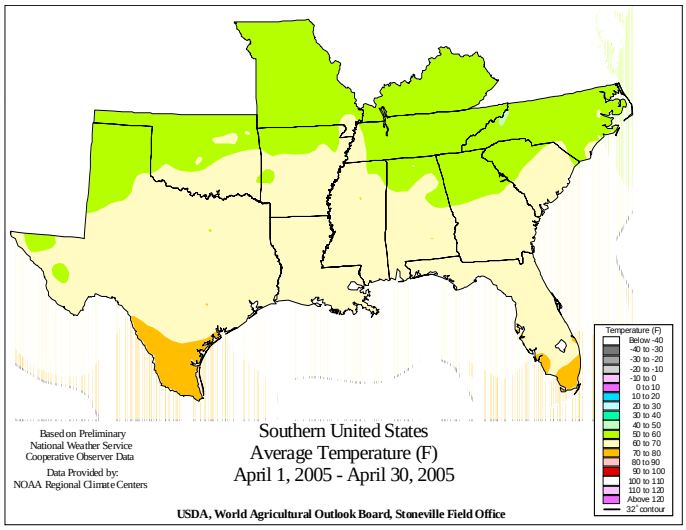
Warmer weather prevailed in most areas during the week. Weekly temperatures generally ranged 6 to 9 degrees F above normal in central and southern Missouri and Kentucky. Temperatures in Oklahoma, Arkansas, and Tennessee averaged 3 to 6 degrees F above normal.

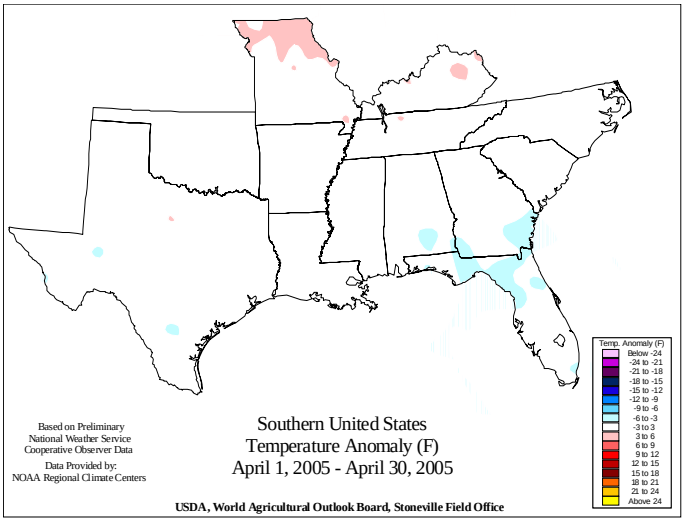



The Mississippi Delta experienced a very hot, and relatively dry, week. Temperatures climbed quickly from early to late week, rising from normal to as much as 10 degrees F above normal within five days, allowing all locations to reach the 90 degree F mark. In Stoneville, maximum temperatures reached 91 degrees F on Thursday (May 12), breaking the previous record of 90 degrees F dating back to 1967. Stoneville recorded a maximum temperature of 92 degrees F on Friday (May 13), tying the same daily record of 92 degree F set in 1962. Lyon recorded the highest reading (95 degrees F) of all locations on Thursday, May 12. After almost a week's worth of dry weather, late Friday and Saturday's rainfall was very welcomed. Although some locations managed to receive up to 2 inches of rain, a majority reported meager rainfall amounts, less than 1 inch.




**April Weather Summary:**

A series of cold fronts and storms produced near- to above-normal precipitation in many areas east of the Mississippi River. Areas west of the Mississippi River, such as west central and southern Texas and central Oklahoma, received less than 25 percent of normal rainfall. Many locations in Missouri, Arkansas, and Louisiana recorded rainfall that ranged from 50 to 75 percent of normal. Greatest amounts of rain (8 to 16 inches or more) was observed in Florida, most of which fell in the panhandle. Pensacola, Florida received over 20 inches of rain. Percent of normal precipitation ranged from 200 to as much as 400 percent in the Florida panhandle. Other areas through central Florida received rainfall amounts ranging from 150 to 200 percent of normal. However, rainfall amounts decreased towards the Everglades region. Other coastal cities surrounding Pensacola, such as Mobile, Alabama, received anywhere between 8 to 16 inches of rain.

Monthly temperatures for most of the southern region averaged near normal, despite the seesaw pattern that occurred in between fronts. Only slight departures from normal were observed in parts of Florida, southeastern Georgia and northern Missouri. Most of Florida's temperature departures occurred during heavy rain events, which broke old daytime maximum temperatures. Temperatures averaged between 50 to 60 degrees F in the northern portion of the region and 60 to 70 degrees F in southern areas. Monthly temperatures in the extreme southern portions of Florida and Texas averaged 70 to 80 degrees F.

**(For additional information, contact Nancy Lopez at 662-686-3395)**

## Agricultural Summary

**United States Crop Progress Report***
**Week Ending**

| | | May 15, 2005 | May 8, 2005 | May 15, 2004 | 2000-2004 Average |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | Percent | | |
| Cotton | Planted | 55 | 39 | 57 | 57 |
| Corn | Planted | 89 | 79 | 91 | 79 |
| | Emerged | 41 | 23 | 59 | 48 |
| Rice | Planted | 87 | 79 | 88 | 86 |
| | Emerged | 63 | 50 | 75 | 70 |
| Soybeans | Planted | 46 | 26 | 51 | 39 |
| | Emerged | 11 | NA | 17 | 14 |

*Source: USDA/National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS)

**Cotton:**

Cotton planting progressed to 55 percent complete, 2 points behind last year and the 5-year average. Tennessee (72 percent planted) and N. Carolina (70 percent planted) advanced 45 and 30 points, respectively. Oklahoma advanced 24 points to 27 percent planted, but still remained significantly behind last year and their 5-year average. Alabama (73 percent planted), Georgia (38 percent planted), and Texas (34 percent planted) remained slightly behind their 5-year average while the other southern states' planting progress was ahead. Thirty percent of the Mississippi crop emerged, advancing to 63 percent, while Louisiana advanced 25 points to 72 percent emerged. Arkansas had 39 percent of their crop emerged while Texas had 5 percent of their crop squaring.

**Corn:**

Growers had planted 89 percent of the Nation's crop, 2 points behind last year and 10 points ahead of the 5-year average. Emergence progressed 18 points to 41 percent emerged nationally. Most southern states reported at least 70 percent of their crop emerged and all were within 10 points of their 5-year average. The exception was Kentucky, where 66 percent of the crop had emerged.

**Rice:**

Planting progressed to 87 percent complete, compared with 88 percent last year and 86 percent for the 5-year average. Emergence, at 63 percent, was 12 points behind last year and 7 points behind the 5-year average. Emergence was most rapid in Missouri (60 percent emerged) where 28 percent of the crop emerged during the week. Emergence was behind both last year and the 5-year average by more than 10 points only in Arkansas. Emergence advanced to 86 percent in Mississippi, 89 percent in Louisiana, and 95 percent in Texas.

**Soybeans:**

Planting progressed 20 points to 46 percent complete, 5 points behind last year and 7 points ahead of the 5-year average. Mississippi (91 percent planted) and Texas (62 percent planted) led, followed by Louisiana and Arkansas, both with 59 percent planted. Mississippi had 80 percent of the crop emerged followed by Louisiana at 47 percent. Crop emergence was within 10 points of the 5-year average in most southern states. The

exceptions were Arkansas and Mississippi where emergence was ahead the 5-year average 11 and 15 points respectively.

**April Summary:**
In the southern United States, planting in most states progressed near the 5-year average pace. The exceptions were in Oklahoma and Georgia, where planting lagged the 5-year average due to unfavorable planting conditions. Most crops were emerging and growing somewhat slower than ideal due to lack of heat units. In areas west of the Mississippi river, soil moisture shortages became an increasing concern for growers.

**(For Additional Information, contact Bart Freeland at 662-686-3280)**